MARVEL

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WOLVERINE ORIGINS

WAY
CONRAD
TROY

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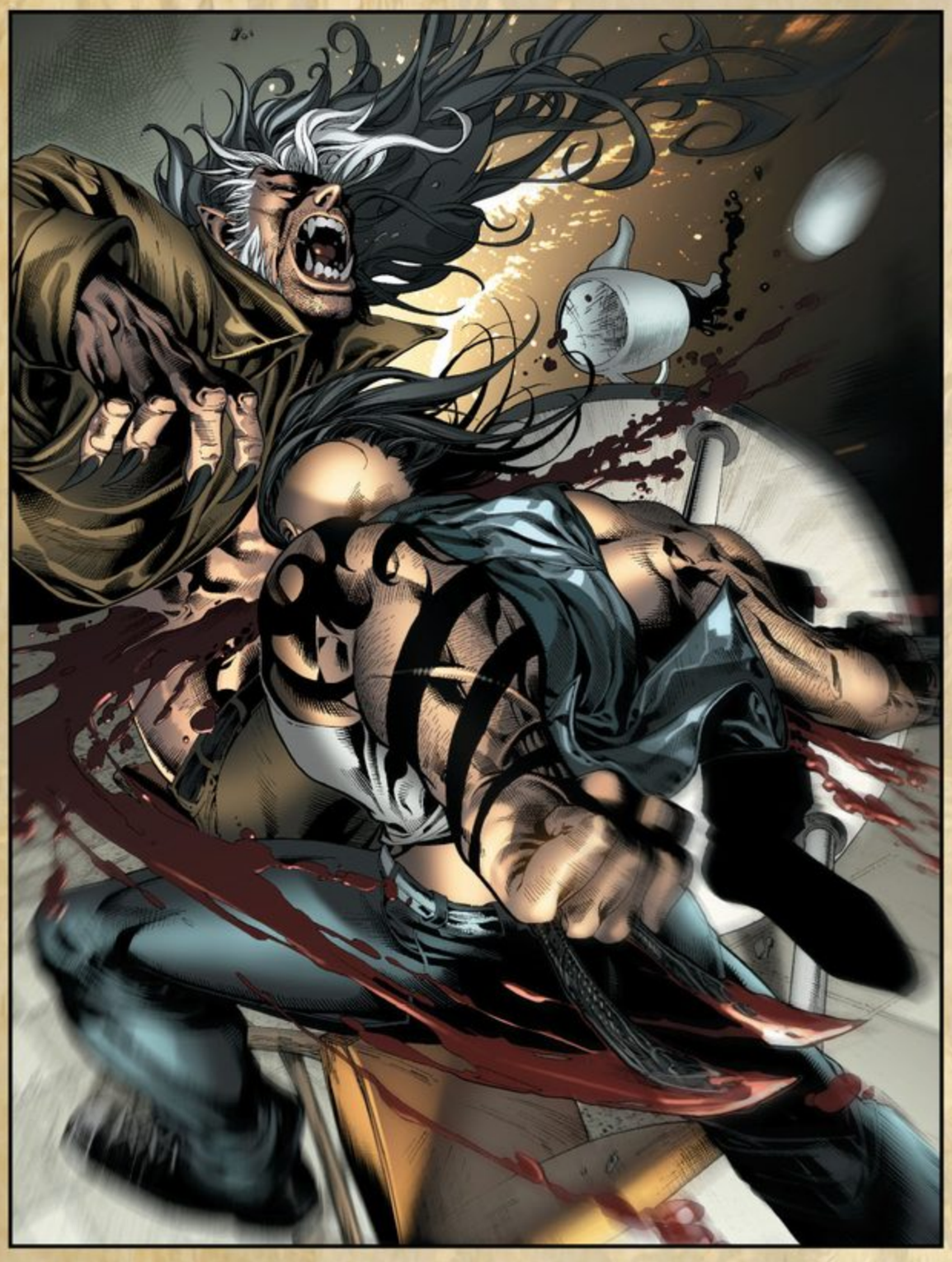
WOLVERINE
ORIGINS

The mutant Wolverine has spent a century fighting those who would manipulate him for his unique powers—razor-sharp claws, heightened senses, and a healing factor capable of miracles. After repeated brainwashing, torture, and reprogramming, Wolverine's past was as much a mystery to him as to anyone. With those long-lost memories returned to him, Wolverine has set out on a mission to punish the conspirators who have wronged him.



Logan has finally caught up with the mysterious and powerful figure known only as Romulus: the man who has been secretly manipulating him his entire life, and who raised Daken to be a ruthless killer. Logan learns that Romulus's grand scheme is for Logan and Daken to fight to the death, deciding who will take Romulus's place at the top of the food chain. Now, armed with the Muramasa blade, a weapon capable of nullifying healing powers, and aided by Cloak, the mutant teleporter, and Skaar, son of the Incredible Hulk, Logan is determined to destroy Romulus's vast empire. Unfortunately it seems that Daken has joined forces with the enemy…

After battling with Wolverine and his allies, Daken and Romulus retreat. Daken then reasons that the only way to keep Romulus away from Wolverine is to kill him, thereby taking control of Romulus's empire himself. Daken then turns on Romulus but before he can land the killing blow, Cloak teleports Romulus away to places unknown, leaving Daken alone with his rage…

RECKONING: PART FOUR

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THE HOWLETT ESTATE, NEAR ALBERTA, CANADA.

MY NAME IS *JAMES HOWLETT* AND THIS IS WHERE I WAS BORN.

THIS IS ALSO WHERE I DIED.

MY NAME IS *WOLVERINE.*

IT'S NOW *YOUR* TURN TO DIE, ROMULUS.

RECKONING
CONCLUSION

NO.

IT AIN'T GONNA BE THAT EASY.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

OR THAT QUICK.

I'M WAITIN' FOR YOU TO *DIE.*

AN' I'M GONNA *KEEP* WAITIN'...

'TIL YOU *DO.*

IT'LL BE A *LONG* WAIT.

IT'LL BE LONGER FOR YOU.

WHERE... AM I...?

THE DARKFORCE DIMENSION.

THIS IS YOUR KINGDOM NOW, ROMULUS.

THIS IS WHERE YOU'LL DIE.

LOOKIN' FOR A PLACE TO *HIDE?* GO AHEAD. *TRY.*

THERE'S PLENTY O' SHADOWS...

...AN' NOTHIN' ELSE.

THIS WILL NOT BE THE END OF ME, WOLVERINE.

DAKEN WILL--

I'LL DEAL WITH DAKEN...

"...WHEN I GET *BACK.*"

HE *STAYS* THERE. *FOR AS LONG AS IT TAKES.*

TELL NO ONE.

NO ONE.

EVER.

AGREED.

ARE WE...DONE HERE?

NO. NOT YET.

THERE'S ONE LAST THING I GOTTA DO.

AN' I GOTTA DO IT ALONE.

REVENGE.

IT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN AFTER FOR OVER A CENTURY.

IT'S BEEN THE ONLY CONSTANT IN MY LIFE. THE ONE THING THAT I'VE HELD TO, TO KEEP ME GOING.

MY GREATEST DESIRE. *MY FONDEST WISH.*

MY BIGGEST LIE.

THE DAYS O' ME LUSTIN' FOR VENGEANCE, THIRSTIN' FOR THE BLOOD O' THOSE WHO'VE MADE ME WHAT I AM ARE OVER.

IS THERE A PART O' ME THAT WISHES I COULDA SEEN WHERE THAT PATH *ENDED?*

YEAH.

AN' THERE ALWAYS WILL BE.

BUT I'VE LEARNED SOMETHIN'.

I LEARNED IT FROM *YOU*, ROMULUS.

THAT PATH *NEVER* ENDS.

IT JUST GOES ON.

AND ON.

INTO DARKNESS.

INTO *NOTHINGNESS.*

REVENGE AIN'T GONNA GET ME WHAT I WANT... WHAT I *NEED.*

BUT THERE IS SOMETHIN' THAT WILL.

I AM A VICTIM.

AND WHAT HAPPENED TO ME...

...IS NOT MY FAULT.

I FORGIVE YOU.

I FORGIVE...

...MYSELF.

LAST THING I'M GONNA ASK OF YA, CLOAK.

TAKE ME TO MY SON.

BUDAPEST, TWO DAYS LATER:

HE'S GONE.

YOU CAN STOP LOOKING.

HE SEARCHES MY FACE FOR THE LIE.

HE AIN'T GONNA FIND IT.

AND NOW YOU'RE HERE FOR *ME*.

YEAH.

IT'S ABOUT TIME...

YEAH.

BEEN WAITIN' A LONG TIME FOR THIS, DAKEN. WAITIN'...AN' *PREPARIN'*.

JAPAN, MONTHS EARLIER.

YOUR SKILL WITH A BLADE IS ALREADY NEAR-FLAWLESS.

YOUR WEAKNESS LIES *HERE.*

AND HERE.

WHEN YOU ALLOW YOUR *RAGE* TO *TAKE OVER...*

...YOUR BALANCE IS *DESTROYED.*

THE BALANCE IN YOUR *MIND.*

FWOKK!

THE BALANCE IN YOUR *HEART.*

FIGHT FOR WHAT YOU *LOVE,* WOLVERINE...

...*NOT* FOR WHAT YOU *HATE.*

SILVER SAMURAI'S LESSONS SERVE ME WELL.

I BLOCK.

I COUNTER.

I KEEP IT DOWN.

I WEAR *HIM* DOWN.

I DON'T GO FOR THE KILL.

DAKEN IS MY SON. AN' AS MUCH AS HE HATES ME...

HRRAAHHH!

...I LOVE HIM.

TWO EQUAL FORCES OF DESTRUCTION, BORN FROM THE SAME SOURCE, COLLIDIN' WITH APOCALYPTIC FORCE.

FROM THE DAY I KNEW MY SON LIVED I FEARED IT WOULD END THIS WAY.

KRAK-

KOOM

UNLIKE ME, DAKEN'S CLAWS ARE ANCHORED TO BONE INSTEAD OF ADAMANTIUM.

UNNHHH...

SKRRTTNNNGG!

YOU CAN'T DO IT...YOU'RE A *COWARD*, *AFRAID OF YOUR OWN SHADOW.*

YOU MAY HAVE KILLED *ROMULUS*, BUT YOU'LL *NEVER* BE ABLE TO--

NEVER *SAID* I KILLED HIM.

THAT'S CONVENIENT...

SAID HE WAS GONE.

I'LL *FIND* HIM, YOU KNOW... I'LL FIND HIM, AND I'LL *KILL* HIM.

JUST LIKE I'M GOING TO KILL *YOU*.

SON?

THAT JUST AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN.

K-HUKK--!

DON'T LOSE IT, LOGAN...KEEP IT TOGETHER.

FOR JUST A LITTLE WHILE LONGER.

YOU KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.

YOU HAVE TO FINISH THIS.

YOUR REIGN IS OVER, ROMULUS. IT DIES WITH YOU. YOU WON'T LIVE ON THROUGH *ME*...

...AN' YOU WON'T LIVE ON THROUGH MY *SON*.

THIS SWORD WAS FORGED FROM THE HATE THAT YOU PLANTED IN MY SOUL, ROMULUS... HATE THAT I'VE CARRIED WITH ME FOR OVER A CENTURY.

I TRULY WISH I COULD'VE SAVED YOU, DAKEN...TURNED YOU AWAY FROM THE PATH OF DESTRUCION AN' DESPAIR THAT I'VE WALKED FOR SO LONG.

BUT IN THE END, YOU LEFT ME WITH NO CHOICE. EVENTUALLY, YOU ***WOULD'VE*** FOUND ROMULUS. AN' YOU WOULD'VE ***KILLED*** HIM.

AN' ME.

AN' WITH NOBODY STANDIN' IN YOUR WAY, YOU WOULD'VE ***BECOME*** ROMULUS.

SO MAYBE I ***DID*** SAVE YOU.

BY MAKIN' THAT IMPOSSIBLE.

YOU'LL NEVER BE ROMULUS, SON.

AN' YOU'LL NEVER BE *ME*.

END.

NEXT